

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1, 19 and 20 are amended.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies extended by Examiner Kramer during the June 19, 2007 personal interview. Applicant's separate record of the personal interview appears below.

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 6.

Claims 1-3, 7-15, 17 and 19-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Osada et al. (Osada), U.S. Patent No. 5,230,549, claims 1, 4, 5 and 7-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Oka et al. (Oka), U.S. Patent No. 6,568,768, and claims 1, 4, 5 and 7-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Kusano, U.S. Publication No. 2003/0214179. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

As agreed during the personal interview and the follow up telephone interview, Okada, Oka and Kusano fail to disclose an electronic control device that decides a target control value as called for in claim 1 and as similarly called for in claims 19 and 20.

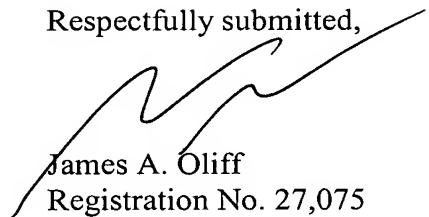
None of the applied references disclose an electronic control device because the applied references only disclose braking characteristics that are mechanically set during the manufacturing stage. Osada, Oka and Kusano fail to provide any disclosure with regard to electronically deciding the target control value called for in claims 1, 19 and 20.

It is respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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